KS03:026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, May 13, 2003

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Compensation for Government Regulation of Private Property.
Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SAN FRANCISCO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponent of a new initiative has received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

COMPENSATION FOR GOVERNMENT REGULATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. The Constitution prohibits private property from being taken or damaged for public use without compensation. This measure would define "damaged for public use" as unreasonable, arbitrary, dilatory, discriminatory, or oppressive government action causing economic damage to the owner of an interest in the property. It would define "taken for public use" to include government restriction or condition that advances no legitimate public purpose or disproportionately or unfairly burdens property owner and substantially causes decrease in effected property's market value. Compensation may include collection costs. Exemption provided for federal law requirements.

The proponent, William Silas Walter, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters for his measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is October 10, 2003. The proponent can be reached at (805) 541-6601.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at (916) 653-6575.